

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 792

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to commend Mike and Martha Keel for their honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee upon their establishment of the Mike and Martha Keel Agriculture Grounds Enhancement Endowment.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mike and Martha Keel are two such estimable people who evince the greatest integrity and probity in all their chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to ensuring a beautiful landscape for all to enjoy for many years to come, the Keels have recently pledged more than \$100,000 in lifetime giving to the Campaign for Tennessee and the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (UTIA) to establish the Mike and Martha Keel Agriculture Grounds Enhancement Endowment; and

WHEREAS, earnings from this endowment will be used to support the improvement and upkeep of the grounds on the main agriculture campus, which includes nearly sixty-five acres from Third Creek to Alcoa Highway, in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, both Mike and Martha Keel have been loyal employees of the University of Tennessee, giving generously of their time and financial support to the 4-H Foundation and the UTIA; Mr. Keel is Director of Business Services for the UTIA, and Mrs. Keel is a Professor in Family and Consumer Sciences; and

WHEREAS, the Keels have been a part of the University family for nearly thirty years, and this endowment is a sincere manifestation of their love for the University and the UTIA; and

WHEREAS, their many contributions to the University and the UTIA aside, the Keels are perhaps most grateful for the love and companionship they share with their family, including Mr.

Keel's sons, Michael and Jeff; Mrs. Keel's children, Brandon and Dori; their grandchildren, Lily, Savannah, Nathan, Mark, and Will; and

WHEREAS, the Keels' remarkable success as public servants and civic leaders is directly attributable to their reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and their uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, the Keels are extremely giving people who often reach out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and they epitomize the ideal of consummate professionals, dedicated public servants, and reliable friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Mike and Martha Keel are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and they should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Mike and Martha Keel for their honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee upon their establishment of the Mike and Martha Keel Agriculture Grounds Enhancement Endowment and salute them for their unswerving commitment to the University of Tennessee and the Institute of Agriculture.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.